

Appl. No. : unknown
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Please add the following new Claims 30-58:

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30. A method of controlling communication between user stations using a mobile communications system having a radio interface, said method comprising:

providing a data packet handler connected to a packet data network;

holding control data indicating a state of a call between a first user station and a second user station;

dynamically assigning radio resources for a transfer of data packets carrying call data for said call over said radio interface, such that an amount of radio resources assigned varies in accordance with the amount of call data to be transferred at different points in said call; and

controlling the transfer of data packets between said first and second user stations using said data packet handler in accordance with said control data.

31. The method of Claim 30, wherein said control data indicates an existence of said call.

32. The method of Claim 30, wherein said control data indicates identities of participants in said call.

33. The method of Claim 30, wherein said control data indicates a seizure of said call by a user station.

34. The method of Claim 30, additionally comprising receiving a call setup request from said first user station at said packet handler, and transmitting a call setup confirmation message to said first user station.

35. The method of Claim 34, additionally comprising transmitting a call setup message to said second user station from said packet handler, and transmitting said call setup confirmation message after an acknowledgement is received from said second user station.

36. The method of Claim 30, additionally comprising accessing a data store from said packet handler to determine an address of said second user station in order to address data packets to be transmitted thereto.

37. The method of Claim 30, additionally comprising seizing said call by said first user station.

38. The method of Claim 37, additionally comprising controlling said transfer to prevent the transfer of data packets to said first user station when said first user station has seized the call.

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39. The method of Claim 37, additionally comprising granting call seizure to said second user station when said first user station no longer has seizure of the call.

40. The method of Claim 30, additionally comprising copying data packets received from said first user station for transmission to a plurality of call participant user stations including said second user station.

41. The method of Claim 30, wherein said control data is held in a data store accessible by said data packet handler.

42. The method of Claim 30, wherein said mobile communications system is a GSM-type mobile communications system, said method comprising:

receiving data packets at said data packet handler from a first user station via a GPRS data link.

43. The method of Claim 30, wherein said mobile communication system is a GSM-type mobile communication system, said method comprising:

transmitting data packets from said data packet handler to a second user station via a GPRS data link.

44. The method of Claim 42, wherein said data packet handler is connected to a GPRS support node.

45. A method of handling transfer of data in a GSM-type mobile communications system, said method comprising:

receiving a first data packet from a first user station, said first data packet containing a recipient ID;

mapping said recipient ID to a packet network protocol address whereby routing to a second user station is identified by a gateway GPRS support node; and

transmitting a second data packet to said gateway GPRS support node, said second data packet containing said packet network protocol address.

46. The method of Claim 45, wherein said data packets comprise voided data.

47. The method of Claim 45, wherein said data packets comprise still or video image data.

48. A data packet handler adapted to perform data packet handling functions, comprising:

a first port to receive and transmit data packets to and from user stations;

a second port to communicate with a packet user database; and

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a means for processing the data packets, the processing means configured to dynamically assign radio resources for a transfer of data packets carrying call data for a call such that an amount of radio resources varies in accordance with the amount of call data to be transferred.

49. A mobile station adapted to communicate with a data packet handler, said mobile station comprising:

means for dynamically requesting resources for transmission of data packets carrying call data over a radio interface, such that an amount of radio resources requested varies in accordance with the amount of call data to be transmitted at different points in said call; and

means for transmitting and receiving control data to and from said data packet handler to signal call-related control functions.

50. A method of conducting communications between user stations using a mobile communications system, each said user station comprising a camera for picking up an image of the user and a display for displaying an image of a remote party, said method comprising establishing a data transfer connection between said user stations, and controlling said connection in a half-duplex mode such that a user station may perform one of either only receiving or only transmitting image data for a first period sufficient to receive or transmit data forming an image, and perform the other of only receiving only transmitting video image data for a second period following said first period and sufficient to transmit or receive image data forming an image.

51. The method of Claim 50, wherein the image data transmitted and received during the first and second periods forms a complete image of the user or a remote party.

52. The method of Claim 50, wherein said image data comprises video image data, and wherein a length of a period of transmission is variable by the user of the user station.

53. A mobile station adapted to conduct video image communications, said mobile terminal having a half-duplex communications mode controlled by a data processor which in that mode prevents transmission of video image data during reception of video image data and which allows the transmission of video image data during a period selected by a user.

54. The mobile station in accordance with Claim 53, wherein said period is selected by an actuation by the user of a switch on said mobile station.